# Journey to PARIS:

Together with fome

Secret Transactions

Between the

# Fr---h K---g,

ANDAN

Eng-- Gentleman.

By the Sieur du BAUDRIER.

Translated from the French.

LONDON,

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#### TRANSLATOR

TO THE

# READER

HE Original of the following Discourse was transmitted to me three Days ago from the Hague, to which Town it was fent from France; but in the Title-Page there was no mention of the Place where it was Printed, only the Author's Name at length, and the Year of our Lord. That the Tract is genuine, I believe no Person will doubt. Tou see all along the Vanity of That Nation, in a mean Man, giving himself the Airs of a Secretary, when it appears, by several Circumstances, that he was receiv'd only as a menial Servant. It were to be wish'd, the Author had been one of more Importance, and farther trusted in the Secrets of his Master's Negotiation; but to make amends, he informs us of several Particulars, which one of more Consequence would not have given himself the trouble about: And these Particulars are such, as we at home will perhaps be curious to know; not to mention that he gives us much Light into some Things that are of great moment; and by his not pretending to know more, we cannot doubt the Truth of what he relates. 'Tis

Tis plain, he waited at Table, carried his Master's Valise, and attended in his Bed-chamber; tho he takes care to tell us, that Monsieur P— made many Excuses and Apologies, because these mean Offices appear very inconsistent with the Character of Secretary, which he would seem to set up for.

I shall make no Reslections on this important Affair, nor upon the Consequences me may expect from it: To reason upon Secrets of State, without knowing all the Springs and Motions of them, is too common a Talent among us, and the Foundation of a thousand Errors. Here is room enough for Speculations; but I advise the Reader to let them serve for his own Entertainment, without troubling the World with his Remarks.

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### Monsieur Monsieur,

AT

## \*ESTAPLE.

SIR,

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Doubt not but you are curious, as many others are, to know the Secret of Monfieur P- an English Gentleman's late Journey from London to Paris. Perhaps, living retired as you do, you may not have heard of this Person, tho' some Years ago he was very much diffingushed at Paris, and in good Esteem even with our August Monarch. I must let you fo far into his Character, as to tell you, that Monsieur P ---- has fignalized himself, both as an eminent Poet, and Man of Buliness; was very much valued by the late King William, who employed him in important Affairs, both in England and Holland: He was Secretary to the English Ambassy, at the Treaty of Resmick; and afterwards, to my Lords the Counts of P\_\_\_d and J\_\_\_y; and, in the Absence of the latter, manag'd, for fome time, the Affairs of England at our Court by himself. Since the Reign of Q \_\_\_\_ he was employed as Commissioner of Trade; but the Ministry changing foon after Q-

<sup>.</sup> A Sea-Fort Town in the Bolognois.

A\_\_\_'s coming to the Crown, Monsieur P—, who was thought too much attach'd to the † Rigides, was laid aside, and liv'd privately at \* Cambridge, where he is a Professor, till he was recall'd by the present

Ministry.

About two Months ago, our King, resolving once more to give Peace to Europe, notwithstanding the flourishing Condition of his Fleets and Armies, the good Posture of his Finances, that his Grandson was almost entirely settled in the quiet Possession of Spain, and that the Affairs of the North was changing every Day to his Advantage; offer'd the Court of E-d to fend a Minister as far as Bologn, who shou'd be there met by some Person from E\_\_\_d, to treat the Overtures of a Peace. Upon the first Notice that this was agreed to, the King immediately difpatch'd Monsieur - in whom he very much confides, to Bologn, where he took Lodgings at a private House in the Faux Bourg, at one Mr. de Marais, a Marchand de Soy, who is married to an English Woman, that formerly had been a Suivante to one of the forementioned English Ambassador's Ladies, over against the Hostellerie de St. Jean: Monsieur stay'd fix Days with much Impatience, when, late at Evening, on Wednesday the 14th of July |, a Person, whom we afterwards knew to be Monsieur P-, came directly to the Door, and enquired for Monsieur De la Bastide, (the Name and Place, I suppose, having been before concerted:) He was immediately shewn unto Monsieur \_\_\_\_, where, as I am inform'd, they were shut up for three Hours together, without any Refreshment, tho' Monsieur P-had rid Post from Calais that Day in a great deal of Rain. The next Morning I was fent for, in all hafte, by Monsieur de Marais, who told me, that a Person of Quality, as he suspected, lately come from England, had some

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<sup>• †</sup> Tries. • A Millake of the Author; for, Monsieur P — did not retile to Cambridge, nor is a Professor, but a Fellow. || New Style.

occasion for a Secretary; and, because he knew I understood the Languages, wrote a tolerable Hand, had been conversant with Persons of Quality, and formerly trusted with Secrets of Importance, had been so kind to recommend me to the said Gentleman, to ferve him in that Quality. I was immediately call'd up, and presented to Mr. P—, who accosted me with great Civility, and after some Conversation was pleas'd to tell me, I had fully answer'd the Character Monsieur de Marais had given me. From this time, to the Day Monsieur P—— lest Calais, in order to return to E—d, I may pretend to give you a faithful Account of all his Motions, and some probable Conjectures of his whole Negotiation between Bologn and Versailles.

But perhaps, Sir, you may be farther curious to know the Particulars of Monsseur P—'s Journey to Bologn. It is reported that sometime before the Peace of Ryswick, King William did dispatch this very Gentleman to Paris, upon the same account for which he now came: 'This possibly might be the Motive (besides the known Abilities of Monsseur P——) to send him a second time. The following Particulars I heard in Discourse between Madamoiselle de Marais and her Husband, which being no great Secrets on our side the Water, I suppose were told without Consequence.

Monsieur P—— having received his Instructions from the E—— h Court, under pretence of taking a short Journey of Pleasure, and visiting the Chevalier de H—— in the Province of Suffolk, left his House on Sunday Night, the 11th of July, N. S. taking none of his Servants with him. Monsieur M—— e, who had already prepared a Bark, with all Necessaries, on the Coast of Dover, took Monsieur P—— disguised in his Chariot: They lay on Monday Night, the 12th of July, at the Count de  $\mathcal{F}$ —— y's House in Kent; arrived in good time the next Day at Dover, drove directly to the Shoar, made the Sign by waving their Hats, which was answered by the Vessel; and the Boat was

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immediately fent to take him in, which he entered, wrapt in his Cloak, and foon got Aboard. He was fix hours at Sea, and arrived at Calais about eleven at Night; went immediately to the Governour, who receiv'd him with great Respect, where he lay all Night; and fet out pretty late the next Morning, being fomewhat incommoded with his Voyage, and then took Post for Bologn, as I have before related.

In the first Conversation I had the Honour to have with Monsieur P he was pleased to talk, as if he would have occasion for my Service but a very few Days; and feem'd refolv'd, by his Discourse, that after he had dispatch'd his Commission with Monsieur de la Bastide (for so we shall from henceforward call that Minister) he would return to E - d; by this I found I should have but little Employment in Quality of Secretary; however, having heard fo great a Character of him, I was willing to attend him in any Capacity he pleased. Four Days we continued at Bologn, where Monsieur de la Bastide and Monsieur Phad two long Conferences every Day from Ten to One at Noon, and from Six till Nine in the Evening. Monsieur P-did me the Honour to send me some Meat and Wine-constantly from his own Table; upon the third Morning I was order'd to attend early, observ'd Monsieur P\_\_\_\_ to have a pleasant Countenance, he ask'd me what I thought of a Journey to E-d? and commanded me to be ready at an hours Warning. But upon the fourth Evening all this was chang'd; and I was directed to hire the best Horse I could find for my felf.

We fet out early the next Day, Sunday the 18th, for Paris, in Monsieur de la Bastide's Chaize, whose two Attendants and my felf, made up the Equipage; but a finall Valise, which I suppose contain'd Monfieur P-'s Instructions, he was pleased to trust to my Care to carry on Horseback; which Trust I dif-

charged with the utmost Faithfulness.

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Somewhat above two Leagues from Bologn, at a small Village call'd Neile, the Axletree broke, which took us two hours to mend; we baited at Montrevil. and lay that Night at Abbeville But I shall not give you any detail of our Journey, which pass'd without any considerable Accident, till we arrived within four Leagues of Paris; when about three in the Afternoon. two Cavaliers, well mounted, and arm'd with Piftols, cross'd the Road, then turn'd short and rode up briskly to the Chaize, commanding the Coachman to ftop. Monsieur de la Bastide's two Attendants were immediately up with them; but I, who gues'd at the Importance of the Charge that Monsieur P-had intrusted me with, tho' I was in no fear for my own Person, thought it most prudent to advance with what speed I could, to a small Village, about a quarter of a League forward, to wait the Event. observ'd the Chaize to come on without any Difturbance, and I ventur'd to meet it; when I found that it was only a Frolick of two young Cadets of Quality, who had been making a Debauch at a Friend's House hard by, and were returning to Paris; one of them was not unknown to Monsieur de la Bastide. The two Cavaliers began to rally me, faid I knew how to make a Retreat, with some other Pleasantries; but Monfieur P\_\_\_\_, (who knew the Cause) highly commended my Discretion. We continued our Journey very merrily, and arrived at Paris on Tuesday the 20th, in the Cool of the Evening.

At the Entrance of the Town our two Cavaliers left us, and Monsieur de la Bastide conducted Monfieur P- to a private Lodging in the Rue St. Louis, which, by all Circumstances, I concluded to be prepared before his Reception. Here I first had Orders to fay that the Gentleman to whom I had the Honour to belong, was call'd Monsieur Matthews; I then knew no otherwise; afterwards, at Versailles, I overheard in Conversation with Monsieur de la Bastide, that his

real Name was P---.

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Monsieur B --- would have had Monsieur Matthems to have gone with him next Morning to Verfailles, but could not prevail with him to comply; of which I could never be able to learn the Reason. Our Minister was very importunate, and Monsieur Pfeem'd to have no Fatigue remaining from his Journey; perhaps he might conceive it more suitable to his Dignity that Monsieur de la Bastide should go before, to prepare the King, by giving Notice of his Arrival: However it were, Monsieur B--- made all haste to Versailles, and return'd the same Night. During his Absence, Monsieur P- never stir'd out of his Chamber; and after Dinner, did me the Honour to fend for me up, that I might bear him Company, as he was pleased to express it. I was surpriz'd to hear him wondering at the Mifery, he had observ'd in our Country, in his Journey from Calais, at the Scarcity and Poverty of the Inhabitants, which he faid, did much exceed even what he had feen in his former Journey: for he own'd that he had been in France be-He feem'd to value himself very much upon the Happiness of his own Island, which, as he pretended, had felt no Effects, like these, upon Trade or Agriculture.

I made bold to return for Answer, That in our Nation we only consulted the Magnificence and Power of our Prince; but that in England, as I was inform'd, the Wealth of the Kingdom was so divided among the People, that little or nothing was left to their Sovereign; and that it was confidently told (tho' hardly believ'd in France) that some Subjects had Palaces more Magnificent than Q— A— her self: That I hop'd, when he went to Versailles, he would allow the Grandeur of our Potent Monarch to exceed, not only that of E—d, but any other in Europe, by which he would find that what he called the Poverty of our Nation, was rather the Effect of Policy in our Court, than any real Want or Necessity. Monfieur P——had no better Answer to make me, than

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that he was no Stranger to our Court, the Splendor of our Prince, and the Maxims by which he govern'd; but for his part, he thought those Countries were happier, where the Productions of it were more equally divided: Such unaccountable Notions is the Prejudice of Education apt to give! In these and the like Discourses we wore away the time till Mons. de la Bastide's return; who after an hour's private Conserence with Monsieur P——, which I found by their Countenances had been warmly pursued on both sides, a Chariot and six Horses (to my great surpize) were instantly order'd, wherein the two Ministers entered, and drove away with all Expedition, my self only attending on Horseback, with my important Valise.

We got to Versailles on Wednesday the 21st, about Eleven at Night; but instead of entering the Town, the Coachman drove us a back way into the Fields, till we stopt at a certain Vineyard, that I afterwards understood join'd to the Gardens of Madam Maintenon's Lodgings. Here the two Gentlemen alighted; Monsieur P—calling to me, bid me search in the Valise for a small Box of Writings; after which the Coachman was order'd to attend in that Place; and we proceeded on some paces, till we stopt at a little Postern which open'd into the Vineyard, whereof Monsieur B—had the Key. He open'd it very readily, and shut it after them, desiring me to stay 'till their return.

I waited with some Impatience for three Hours, the great Clock struck Two before they came out: The Coachman, who, I suppose, had his Instructions before, as soon as they were got into the Chariot, drove away to a small House at the end of the Town, where Monsieur B—— left us, to our selves. I observ'd Monsieur P—— was very Thoughtful, and without entering into any Conversation, desired my Assistance to put him to Bed. Next Morning, Thursday the 22d, I had positive Orders not to stir abroad. About ten a Clock, Mons. B— came; the House being small,

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small, my Apartment was divided from Monsieur P-'s by a thin Wainfcot, fo that I could eafily hear what they faid, when they raifed their Voice, as they often did. After some time I could hear Monsieur de la Baftide fay, with warmth, Bon Dieu! Go. Good God! Were ever fuch Demands made to a great Monarch, unless you were at the Gates of his Metropolis? For the Love of God, Monsieur P- relax something, if your Instructions will permit you, else I shall despair of any good Success in our Negotiation? Is it not enough that our King will abandon his Grandson, but he must lend his own Arm to pull him out of the Throne? Why did you not open your felf to me at Bologn? Why are you more unexorable here at Verfailles? You have rifen in your Demands, by feeing Madam Maintenon's Desire for a Peace? As able as you are to continue the War, consider which is to be most preferr'd, the Good of your Country, or the particular Advantage of your G-1; for he will be the only Gainer among your Subjects? Monsieur P-, who has a low Voice, and had not that occasion for Passion, anfwer'd fo foftly, that I could not well understand him; but upon parting, I heard him fay, If you infist fill on these Difficulties, my next Audience will be that of

Three Hours after Monsieur de la Bastide return'd again, with a Countenance more composed: He ask'd Mr. P— if he would give him leave to Dine with him? Having no Attendance, I readily offer'd my Service at \* Table, which Monsieur P— was pleas'd to accept with abundance of Apologies. I found they were come to a better Understanding. Mr. P— has a great deal of Wit and Vivacity; he entertained Monsieur de la Bastide with much Pleasantry, notwithstanding their being upon the reserve before me. That Monsieur, says Mr. Matthews, if he were un | particulier, would be the most agreeable Person in the World.

By this and some other preceding Particulars, we may discover what form of Secretary the Author was.

I A Private Man.

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I imagined they spoke of the King, but going often in and out, I could not preserve the Connexion of their Discourse. Did you mind how obligingly he enquired, whether our Famous Chevalier Newton was still living? He told me my good Friend poor + Despreaux was dead since I was in France; and ask'd me after Q. A-'s Health. These are some of the Particulars I overheard, whilst at Dinner; which consirm'd my Opinion, That Monsieur P—— last Night had an Audi-

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About Ten that Evening Monsieur de la Bastide came to take Monsieur Matthews, to go to the same Place they were at before: I was permitted to enter the Vineyard, but not the Gardens, being left at the Gate to wait their return; which was in about two Hours time. The Moon shone bright, and by Monsieur Matthews's manner, I thought he appeared somewhat distaissied. When he came into his Chamber, he threw off his Hat in some Passion, folded his Arms, and walk'd up and down the Room, for above an Hour, extreme pensive: At length he call'd to be put to Bed; and order'd me to set a Candle by his Bed-side, and to setch him some Papers out of his Valise to read.

On Friday the 23d in the Morning, Monsieur Matthems was so obliging to call me to him, with the afsurance, that he was extremely pleas'd with my Discretion, and manner of Address; as a Proof of which
Satisfaction, he would give me leave to satisfie my
Curiosity with seeing so fine a Place as Versailles; telling me, he should return next day towards Bologne;
and therefore advis'd me to go immediately to view
the Palace, with this Caution (tho' he did not suppose
I needed it) not to say any thing of the Occasion
that brought me to Versailles.

Monsieur de la Bastide having staid the Afternoon with Monsieur Matthews, about Eight o' Clock they went to the Rendezvous: My Curiosity had led me

Monfieur Beikan, the famous French Poet.

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in the Morning to take a stricter View of the Vineyard and Gardens. I remain'd at the Gate as before. In an Hour and half's time Monfieur Matthews, with Monsieur de la Bastide, another Gentleman, and a Lady, came into the Walk: De la Bastide open'd the Gate, and held it some time in his Hand. Whilst Monsieur Matthews was taking his leave of those Perfons, I heard the Lady fay, at parting, Monsieur, Songez vous, &c. Consider this Night on what we have faid to you. The Gentleman seconded her, saying, Ouy, ouy, Monsieur, Songez vous en pour la dernier fois: Ay, ay, Sir, consider for the last time. To which Monfieur Matthews answered briskly in going out, Sire, tout ou rien, &c. Sir, All or none, as I have had the Honour to tell your Majesty before. Which puts it beyond dispute what the Quality of those Persons were, by whom Monsieur Matthews had the Honour to be entertain'd.

On Saturday the 24th, Monf. M- kept close as before; telling me, a Post-Chaise was order'd to carry him to Calais, and he would do me the grace to take me with him, to keep him Company in the Journey, for he should leave Monsieur de la Bastide at Versailles. Whilst we were discoursing, that Gentleman came in with an open Air, and a smiling Countenance; he embrac'd Monsieur Matthews, and seem'd to feel so much loy, that he could not easily conceal it. I left the Chamber, and retir'd to my own; whence I cou'd hear him fay, Courage, Monsieur, no Travelling to day, Madam Maintenon will have me once more conduct you to After which I was call'd, and receiv'd Orders about Dinner, &c. Monsieur de la Bastide told me, we should fet out about Midnight. He staid the rest of the day with Monsieur Marthews. About Ten a Clock they went forth, but dispens'd with my Attendance; it was One in the Morning before they return'd, tho' the Chaise was at the Gate soon after Eleven. Monsieur Matthews took a Morsel of Bread, and a large Glass of Hermitage Wine; after which

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they embrac'd with much Kindness, and so parted. Our Journey to Calais pass'd without any Accident worth informing you: Mr. P\_\_\_, who is of a Conflitution somewhat tender, was troubled with a Rheum, which made speaking uneasse to him; but it was not fo at all to me, and therefore I entertain'd him as well as I could, chiefly with the Praises of our Great Monarch, the Magnificence of his Court, the Number of his Attendants, the Awe and Veneration paid him by his Generals and Ministers, and the Immense Riches of the Kingdom. One Afternoon, in a small Village between Chaumont and Beauvais, as I was discoursing on this Subject, several poor People follow'd the Chaife to beg our Charity: one louder than the rest, a comely Person, about Fifty, all in Rags, but with a Mien that shew'd him to be of a good House, cry'd out, Monsieur, pour l' amour de Dieu, &c. Sir, for the Love of God, give something to the Marquis de Sourdis: Mr. P .\_\_, half afleep, roused himself up at the Name of Marquis, call'd the poor Gentleman to him, and observing fomething in his Behaviour like a Man of Quality. very generously threw him a Pistole. As the Coach went on, Monsieur P ask'd me, with much furprize, Whether I thought it possible that unhappy Creature could be \* un veritable Marquis? For if it were fo, furely the Miseries of our Country must be much greater than even our very Enemies cou'd hope or believe. I made bold to tell him, That I thought we could not well judge from Particulars to Generals, and that I was fure there were great numbers of Marquisses in France who had ten thoufand Livres a Year. I tell you this Passage, to let you fee, that the wifest Men have some Prejudices of their Country about them! We got to Calais on Wednesday the 28th in the Evening, and the next Morning (the 29th) I took my leave of Monsieur P-, who thanking me in the civillest manner in

<sup>\*</sup> A real Marquis.

the World, for the Service I had done him, very nobly made me a Present of Fifty Pistoles, and so we parted. He put to Sea with a fair Wind, and I suppose, in a few Hours landed in England.

This, Sir, is the utmost I am able to inform you about Monsieur P\_\_\_\_'s Journey and Negociation: Time alone will let us know the Events of it, which are yet in the Dark.

I am,

Sir,

Your most obedient and most humble Servant,

Du Baudrier.

### Postscript by the Translator.

Continue that I do to

THE Author of this Tract having left his Mafler on Shipboard at Calais, had, it feems, no further Intelligence when he Publish'd it: Neither am I able to supply it, but by what passes in Common-Report; which being in every Body's Mouth, but with no Certainty, I think it needless to repeat.

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